

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 5~~ An article comprising an electrochemical sensor strip having circuits comprising electrodes in an electrode region connected to contact pads in a contact region by conductive traces wherein the electrode region is off-set from the contact region in both an x direction parallel to the length of the sensor strip and a y direction parallel to the width of the sensor strip, wherein the electrode region and contact region are off-set such that they form an L shape, the interior of which shape forms an edge of the sensor strip and wherein the electrode region protrudes beyond the contact region in the x direction, wherein the circuits are located in an active portion and the article further comprises an inactive portion, and wherein the inactive portion comprises a handling tab.
7. (Original) The article of claim 6 wherein the handling tab is bent at one or both ends.
8. (Original) The article of claim 6 wherein the handling tab is textured.
9. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 6 wherein the active portion is about 3 mm to about 10 mm wide and about 5 mm to about 25 mm long.
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently Amended) ~~The article of claim 1~~ An article comprising an electrochemical sensor strip having circuits comprising electrodes in an electrode region connected to contact pads in a contact region by conductive traces wherein the electrode region is off-set from the contact region in both an x direction parallel to the length of the sensor strip

- and a y direction parallel to the width of the sensor strip, wherein the electrode region and contact region are off-set such that they form an L shape, the interior of which shape forms an edge of the sensor strip and wherein the electrode region protrudes beyond the contact region in the x direction, wherein the circuits are located in an active portion and the article further comprises an inactive portion, and further comprising a fluid-wicking channel that extends across the length of the electrode region, wherein the fluid-wicking channel terminates at one end with a fluid sample entrance, wherein the fluid sample entrance traverses the end of the fluid-wicking channel at an angle of less than 90, and wherein the length of the electrode region is less than one-half of the width of the circuit.
13. (Cancelled)
 14. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12 wherein the angle is 45.
 15. (Original) The article of claim 14 wherein the fluid sample entrance is 1.4 times an entrance that intersects the fluid-wicking channel at an angle of 90.
 16. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel is open to the atmosphere at both ends.
 17. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel transports fluid to the electrodes by capillary action.
 18. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12 wherein the fluid-wicking channel has a volume of less than about one microliter.
 19. (Currently Amended) The article of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 5 wherein the sensor strip is a blood glucose sensor strip.
 20. (Original) An article comprising a blood glucose test kit comprising the electrochemical sensor strip of claim 19 and a glucose measuring device having a slot that receives the sensor strip article wherein when the sensor strip is fully inserted into the slot the electrode region of the sensor remains outside of the slot.